1	2	3	4	5	6
	West Bengal (North)	186	250	292	300-350
Total for North-East		11027	9482	9243	-
East	West Bengal (South)	14	26	36	25
	Jharkhand	550	618	772	624
	Orissa	1750	1800	1841	1862
	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	122
Total for East		2314	2444	2649	2633
North	Uttarakhand	828	1130	1582	1346
	Uttar Pradesh	47	70	85	380
Total for North		875	1200	1667	1726
South	Tamil Nadu	2307	2971	3052	3867
	Kamataka	5500	6088	5838	4035
	Kerala	3500	3600	3850	6068
	Andhra Pradesh	46	57	74	28
	Maharashtra	-	-	-	7
Total for South		11353	12716	12814	14005
Islands	Andaman & Nicobar	35	35	40	-
Grand Total		25604	25877	26413	-
Grand Total minus NE States		14,577	16395	17,170	18663

Population of tigers in the country

1438. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Tiger Conservation Authority has estimated that the present number of tigers in the country is only 1,411 against an earlier estimate of 3508; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT **AND** FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The recent All India Estimation of **tiger** undertaken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests through Project Tiger (now **the** National Tiger Conservation Authority) in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India, has indicated the total country-level population of tiger is **1411** (mid value); the lower and upper limits are **1165** and **1657** respectively. The details are given in Statement *(See* below). The recent assessment of tiger population is based on determining spatial occupancy of tigers throughout potential tiger forests and sampling such forests using camera traps **in a** statistical framework. This assessment is not comparable to the earlier total count using

pugmarks owing to several shortcomings in the latter. The new findings indicate a poor status of tiger population in areas outside tiger reserves and protected areas. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas of such States are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts.

Statement

Forest occupancy and population estimates of tiger as per the refined methodology

State	Tiger Km^2	Tiger Numbers		
		No.	Lower limit	Upper limit
1	2	3	4	5
Shivallk-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex				
Uttarakhand	1901	178	*164*	195
Uttar Pradesh	2766	109	91	127
Bihar	510	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic	5177	297	259	335
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex				
Andhra Pradesh	14126	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	3609	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	15614	300	236	364
Maharashtra	4273	103	76	131
Orissa	9144	45	37	53
Rajasthan	356	32	30	35
Jharkhand**	1488		Not Assessed	
Central Indian	48610	601	486	718
Western Ghats Landscape Complex				
Karnataka	18715	290	241	339
Kerala	6168	46	39	53
$amil Nadu	9211	76	56	95
Western Chats	34094	412	336	487
North East Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains				
Assam*	1164	70	60	80
Arunachal Pradesh*	1685	14	12	18
Mizoram*	785	*6*	4	8
Northern West Bengal*	596	10	8	12

1	2	3	4	5
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra	4230	100	84	118
Sunderbans	1586		Not Assessed	
Total Tiger Population		1411	1165	1657

* Population estimates are based on possible density of tiger occupied landscape in the area, not assessed by double sampling.

* Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100km^2

Action plan for cleaning the rivers

t l439. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an action plan has been formulated to clean and to make the rivers of the country pollution free;

(b) if so, the details of the rivers included in this plan; and

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed to clean up these rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), pollution abatement works are implemented to improve the water quality in the identified polluted stretches of major rivers. These works include interception and diversion of raw sewage flowing into the rivers, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants for treating the diverted sewage, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and River Front Development among others. The Works are implemented through Implementing Agencies nominated by the State Governments for the purpose. Presently, NRCP covers pollution abatement works in 164 towns along polluted stretches of 35 rivers spread over 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4863.75 crores. The details of the rivers and the States covered under the Plan are given in Statement *{See* below).

Conservation of rivers is a dynamic activity with the ever increasing pollution load due to rapid urbanization and increase in population. Review of the strategies of conservation policy and identification of additional towns and rivers is a continuous process. Due to continuous increase in the population of the towns located along the banks of the rivers resulting in increased pollution load, and gap in the availability of financial resources to take up works commensurate with the requirements, there is likely to be persistent divergence between the tackled pollution load and the actual pollution load.

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.